GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1380
ANSWERED ON:09.02.2017
Use of Mobile Phone/Wi-Fi in Flights
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Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to allow the use of Wi-Fi in commercial aircraft operating over Indian territory, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the Government has carried out a study and examination of the security implications of introducing Wi-Fi in commercial aircrafts, if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Directorate General of Civil Aviation has issued any direction to restrict the carrying of certain mobile phones in the flights in view of reported incidents of accidents in the flights and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has made any precautionary measures to check the possibility of such accidents via other electronic devices and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION

(Shri Jayant Sinha)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. The proposal to allow voice, video and data services in Aircrafts on Indian Airspace is under consideration of the Department of Telecommunication, Ministry of Communications. ;
;
(c): Yes Madam. DGCA had issued a Public Notice dated 17.10.2016 to advise travelling public and airlines not to carry Samsung Galaxy Note 7 smartphone on board the aircraft including as checked-in luggage/cargo on any aircraft operating flights to, from or within India. ;
;
(d) DGCA has already issued CAR Section 5 Series X Part I as guidelines for carriage or use of electronic devices on board the aircraft during flight. ;

As per Para 3.2 of the said CAR, "Electronic devices, intentionally transmitting radio signals like mobile/cellular phones, amateur radio transceivers, etc., if carried on board, shall be kept in non-transmitted mode (commonly referred to as Flight/Airplance Mode)."